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MISCELLANEA.

PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION.—Mr. David Chadwick, the Treasurer of the Borough of Salford, and a gentleman of considerable reputation, has published a very interesting pamphlet intitled “*Suggestions for Effecting an Equitable Re-distribution of Members of Parliament on the basis of a Representative Claim deduced from the Population and the Annual Value of Property.*” (London: Smith, 184, Strand.) The details are worked out with great minuteness, and the general effect of the suggested scheme is stated by Mr. Chadwick himself in the following passage of his introduction.

“In the plan now proposed, I take the present Annual Value of Property in each place, and the Population, as per Census of 1851, as given in the Parliamentary Return of last year.

“I suggest that 10,000 inhabitants and 50,000*l.* value of property should be the minimum claim to *one Member* of Parliament, and that 20,000 population and 100,000*l.* value of property should be the minimum claim to *two members*.

“In order that this principle may be easily applied to the whole of the constituencies, I have constructed a Table, giving the Representative Claim of from *one* to *seven* members.

“This Table is made up by taking a mean or composite number (reckoning the unit at 10,000) of the population and value of property in each place, as given in the Return Appendix No. 1.

“Thus, *Hereford*, Population 12,108, gives 1·2.
Property, £50,059, „ 5·0.

Showing a Composite Number or Representative claim of 6, the minimum estimated claim to one Member in the following Table.

Bedfordshire, Population of 112,785, gives 11·2.
Property, £517,621, „ 51·7.

Showing a Representative claim of 63, and it therefore would, according to the following Table, be entitled to three members:—

“**TABLE showing the ‘REPRESENTATIVE CLAIM’ to Members of Parliament, as applied to all Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.**

Population.	Annual Value of Property.	Representative Claim.	Number of Members.
If 10,000 and not exceeding 20,000	{ If 50,000 and under 100,000	6 }	1
If 50,000 and under 100,000	300,000 „	40	2
„ 200,000	1,300,000 „	150	3
„ 300,000	2,400,000 „	270	4
„ 400,000	3,600,000 „	400	5
„ 500,000	5,000,000 „	550	6
above ditto	above ditto	above ditto	7

“*Note.*—All places giving a ‘Representative Claim’ of *less* than six are proposed to be disfranchised.

“The Return, No. 1 Appendix, shows the proposed Re-distribution of seats according to this scheme.

" Population and Property jointly, are taken as the real elements of Representation, in order that Taxation and Representation should, as far as practicable, and on a definite principle and proportion, coexist.

" The number of Houses in any case can be ascertained from the population with sufficient exactness by taking *six* persons to one house, in very large towns ; *seven* persons to one house in London, Glasgow, and Edinburgh ; and *five* persons to one house in all other cases.

" The Annual Value of Property given in the Return No. 1, includes all Land, Houses, Works, Railways, Canals, and other property assessed by the Government to the Property Tax, and by the Local authorities to the Poor Rates. It may be taken as a safer and better criterion than any other, not only of the extent of liability to contribute to the National Taxation, but also of the condition and intelligence of the people.

" The Elements of Representation having been thus ascertained, it is submitted, that the same amount of population and property, (jointly considered and so that a preponderance of one shall be allowed to compensate for a disparity of the other), should return the same number of Members to Parliament, whether in Counties, Cities, or Boroughs, in England, Ireland, Scotland, or Wales.

" The Return No. 2 Appendix, shows the Boroughs which under this plan would be disfranchised, and those where the number of Members would be *reduced*.

" The operation of this scheme, though at first sight rather alarming, by the large number of Boroughs it proposes to disfranchise, will be found, on careful examination, to be quite safe and practicable.

" Although by this plan the Counties would obtain a very large increase of Representation, they would not get an unequal advantage. At present, the large number of Members representing the small Boroughs proposed to be disfranchised, may be considered as County Members, or as representing the interest of a fractional portion of the Counties. It is evidently better to increase at once the Members for the whole County or Division, in proportion to its acknowledged claim, than to attempt to bolster up any longer the small Constituencies on the plea of peculiar claims, vested rights, or class interest.

" The plan now proposed is surely preferable to any scheme, however skilfully devised, which may attempt to keep up the present small Constituencies, by including the surrounding Villages within new Parliamentary boundaries.

" If the grouping of Villages within any given radius be allowable in any case, there are no districts in which that objectionable system cannot be applied : but there must be a limit, and when the area of a borough is extended many miles, or includes a group of Villages several miles apart, it would undoubtedly be better to extinguish the small Borough at once, and give a new *County* Member, whose usefulness and dignity would not be impaired by the reflection that he does not represent an average proportion of the people and property of the kingdom in the British Parliament.

" In conclusion, I refer to the tables and statements appended hereto as the best proof of the fairness, the moderation, and the practicability of the plan now proposed.

" The Return No. 3 gives a list of the proposed New Boroughs and Constituencies, and of those in which the number of Members is increased.

" The Return No. 4 gives a general view of the whole of the alterations now suggested.

" By this scheme the following would be the general result :—

" No. of Members taken from small Boroughs	201
<i>Add for Sudbury and St. Albans, already disfranchised....</i>	4

205

No. of New Members added to Counties	133
Ditto added to the present large Boroughs	60
Ditto given to New Boroughs	12
	<u>205</u> "

“GENERAL SOCIETY OF COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CREDIT,” established at Paris, in March. 1858.

A NEW Commercial Company has been established at Paris, under Government sanction, with the title as above. It resembles very closely the *Crédit Mobilier*, and is generally described short, as the *Crédit Industriel*. The *Moniteur* gave the following statement relative to the New Company:—

“By the terms of the statutes the administration will consist of governors and directors named in the same form as the governors and directors of the Bank of France and of the Crédit Foncier. The capital of the society is fixed at 60,000,000 francs, divided into 120,000 shares of 500 francs each ; 80,000 shares, or 40,000,000 francs, is reserved for the public subscription. This obligation, imposed by the Council of State to reserve 80,000 shares to the public subscription, is worthy of remark. The new society, constituted in order to fill up a void in our financial organization, will be empowered to open public subscriptions for all the great enterprises of utility, the home and foreign loans, &c. Until the homologation of the statutes, the constitution of the board of directors, and the nomination of the governor, the funds paid in by the subscribers will be deposited at the Caisse des Dépôts et Consignation, in conformity with the request of the Minister of Finance. During the subscription the books will be examined each day by an inspector of finance appointed for this purpose by the Minister. Each day there will be sent to the Minister of Finance a statement of the sum paid in. The allotment of shares subscribed for will not be made until after the lists of subscription and of allotment shall have been submitted to the Minister of Finance. This new institution, which will have the double character of an *intermédiaire* for commerce and for industry, would have been analogous to the Crédit Mobilier if its statutes had permitted it to speculate on the Bourse. But this power not being accorded to it, its shares have no fluctuating character, and offer as perfect a security as the operation of the Comptoir d’Escompte and of the Bank of France, with a greater latitude in favour of industry.”

A copy of the following document was posted in March last on the London Stock Exchange, relative to the subscriptions which may be made in this country:—

“This society has been constituted by act passed before M. Dufour and his colleague, notaries in Paris, the 28th December last. The statutes have been examined by the Council of State. Social capital 60,000,000 f., divided into 120,000 shares of 500 f. each. First issue of 40,000,000 f. represented by 80,000 shares, upon which an instalment of 125 f. will be paid. The second issue of 20,000,000 f. will not be made until the authority of the Government has been received. The public subscription of the 80,000 shares to be issued is opened at Messrs. Donon, Aubry, Gautier, and Co., bankers, 44, Rue de la Victoire, Paris, until the 4th of April, at three o’clock. Each application must be accompanied by a deposit of 50 f. per share. The allotment of shares between the subscribers will be made *pro rata* after deduction of the 4,800 necessary for the qualification of the directors. The allotment will be made within ten days after the closing of the subscription. During this interval the subscribers will be required to pay 75 f., sum necessary to complete the 125 f. per share; provisional certificates (to bearer) will be delivered against this payment and the original receipt. Every subscription which has not been completed before the above date will be annulled, and the deposit money returned to the subscribers. Mr. C. W. Price, foreign and English stockbroker, having been authorized to take charge of English subscriptions in the above undertaking, will forward to the board in Paris any applications made to him before the 3rd April next.”

The society is authorized to discount commercial bills payable in France and abroad, to make advances on warrants for goods, issued in conformity with the law of 28th May, 1858, and on commercial instruments generally; to make advances on French funds and the shares and bonds of industrial undertakings to the extent

of two-thirds of the value in the market; but these bonds are not to be for a longer period than 90 days, nor to exceed in amount one-fifth of the paid-up capital plus one-half of the reserved fund. Advances may be made to French "Industrial" companies for a period of six months, with a like limitation as to aggregate amount. The society may make and receive payments of all kinds at home and abroad, open accounts current, and execute commission business in stocks and shares. Subject to the authorization of the Minister of Finance, it may open for account of third parties subscriptions to public loans and industrial undertakings. Another important feature is that the society may receive, in the shape of current accounts, a sum equal to 150 per cent. of its paid-up capital and reserved fund, and may allow interest upon such balances, the aggregate amount of which may be extended, with the approbation of the Government. The aggregate of deposits, bills current, and paper in circulation bearing the society's endorsement, is never to exceed six times the amount of paid-up capital and reserved fund. The liability of the shareholders is limited to the amount of shares held. The directors are to be twenty-two in number, and the president is to be named by the Emperor, but how much may be paid for the nomination is not, of course, intended to be revealed.

NAVAL ARSENAL AT CHERBOURG.—A recent number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* contains an interesting article on the Naval Arsenal at Cherbourg, from which it appears that the works have cost 7,611,000*l.* They are thus divided :

Periods.	Sea Works.	Fortifications and War Buildings.	Total.
Ancient Monarchy, from 1783 to 1792	£ 1,248,000	£ 410,000	£ 1,658,000
Republic, from 1793 to 1800.....	....	....	....
Consulate and the Empire, from 1801 to 31st March, 1814	1,176,000	359,000	1,535,000
Restoration, from 1st April, 1814, to 31st July, 1830	413,000	64,000	477,000
Government of July, from 1st August, 1830, to 24th February, 1848	1,626,000	339,000	1,965,000
Republic, 25th February, 1848, to 2nd December, 1852	644,000	116,000	760,000
Government of Napoleon III., from the 3rd December, 1852, to 31st December, 1857	1,038,000	178,000	1,216,000
	6,145,000	1,466,000	7,611,000

**GENERAL ELECTION, 1859, and the Eight General Elections, 1832-59.—
PARTY RESULTS.**

IN the *Standard* newspaper of the 21st May, 1859, a correspondent inserts an elaborate analysis of the results, in a party sense, of the General Election just concluded. Without entering into any of the personal or mere party inferences of the writer, we may avail ourselves of the two following Tables. In the *first*, a statement is given of the final result, of the Polls in forty-four Counties and Boroughs most hotly contested in April, 1859, and in March, 1857. The Table is formed on the principle of inserting the *highest* number of votes polled for a candidate on each side. In the *second* Table a statement is given of the party results at the close of each of the eight General Elections which have taken place from 1832 to 1859, distinguishing the several classes of County and Borough Constituencies. The following are the Tables:—

GENERAL ELECTIONS.—March, 1857, and April, 1859.—Party Results in forty-four leading Contests, taking the highest polls on each side.

Constituency.	Conservative.		Whig-Radical.		Constituency.	Conservative.		Whig-Radical.	
	1857.	1859.	1857.	1859.		1857.	1859.	1857.	1859.
Bedfordshire	1,374	2,030	1,564	1,832	Leicester.....	1,114	1,476	1,673	1,584
Berwick	269	366	339	330	Leith	701	902	821	746
Blackburn	509	832	846	750	Lewes	206	200	459	339
Bedmin	169	198	244	205	Limerick (County)	14	2,538	859	3,933
Bridgewater.....	203	230	330	290	Liskeard.....	124	160	174	164
Bristol	3,632	4,205	4,681	4,432	Londonderry (Co.)	2,404	2,627	2,339	1,788
Carrickfergus	560	667	383	260	Lyme Regis	53	115	144	116
Cheltenham.....	655	910	841	922	Maldon	405	503	427	431
Clare (County)	1,139	3,829	1,152	2,234	Mallow	52	63	108	53
Cork (City).....	898	1,200	1,246	1,276	Newry	232	250	246	197
Coventry	599	1,955	2,810	3,058	Norwich	1,636	1,954	2,247	2,151
Dartmouth	93	116	126	116	Plymouth	622	1,153	1,167	1,086
Derbyshire (South)	2,105	3,185	3,922	3,536	Poole	98	143	211	203
Devizes	159	171	230	148	Preston	1,433	1,542	1,503	1,258
Dover	695	931	989	788	Roscommon	523	1,226	985	1,634
Essex (South).....	2,332	2,846	2,119	2,185	Stockport	557	594	834	769
Frome	72	194	162	147	Taunton	401	407	442	388
Galway.....	262	743	448	646	Truro	263	303	267	225
Hull	1,392	2,260	2,365	2,440	Wexford (County)	2,522	3,026	4,303	4,003
Hants	1,192	1,403	1,106	1,069	Wigan	308	500	493	476
Kidderminster.....	146	208	234	217	Winchester.....	385	403	397	348
Kent (West)	3,171	3,769	3,896	3,584	Yarmouth	521	691	609	537

**The EIGHT GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1832-59.—Party Results at close of each,
according to the Politics of the Members declared Elected.**

Constituencies.	1832.			1835.			1837.			1841.		
	Cons.	Lib. Cons.	Lib.	Cons.	Lib. Cons.	Lib.	Cons.	Lib. Cons.	Lib.	Cons.	Lib. Cons.	Lib.
English <i>Boros.</i> ...	82	2	243	132	4	191	142	3	182	150	9	168
,, <i>Counties.</i> ...	38	....	106	71	2	71	100	....	44	120	6	18
Welsh <i>Boros.</i>	4	....	10	5	1	8	6	....	8	7	....	7
,, <i>Counties.</i> ...	8	....	7	11	....	4	11	1	3	11	1	3
Scotch <i>Boros.</i>	2	....	21	....	....	23	1	....	22	1	....	22
,, <i>Counties.</i> ...	7	....	23	15	....	15	18	....	12	19	2	9
Irish <i>Boros.</i>	13	....	28	14	....	27	11	1	29	16	1	24
,, <i>Counties.</i> ...	18	....	46	23	....	41	21	....	43	26	....	38
	172	2	484	271	7	380	310	5	343	350	19	289

Constituencies.	1847.			1852.			1857.			1859.		
	Cons.	Lib. Cons.	Lib.	Cons.	Lib. Cons.	Lib.	Cons.	Lib. Cons.	Lib.	Cons.	Lib. Cons.	Lib.
English <i>Boros.</i>	77	60	188	110	24	189	86	23	214	118	6	199
,, <i>Counties.</i> ...	97	11	36	108	8	28	86	8	50	98	2	44
Welsh <i>Boros.</i>	2	5	7	4	2	8	4	1	9	5	....	9
,, <i>Counties.</i> ...	11	2	2	11	....	4	10	....	5	10	....	5
Scotch <i>Boros.</i> ....	....	....	23	....	....	23	....	....	23	1	....	22
,, <i>Counties.</i> ...	9	11	10	12	7	11	8	7	15	15	1	14
Irish <i>Boros.</i>	8	6	27	13	2	26	16	2	23	22	....	19
,, <i>Counties.</i> ...	23	3	38	25	2	37	27	....	37	35	1	28
	227	98	331	283	45	326	237	41	376	304	10	340

**MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE.—Report from Select Committee of *House of Lords*
on the effects of the *Small Tenements Rating Act of 1850.***

IN February last, a Select Committee of the House of Lords was obtained by Earl Grey to inquire into the effect produced on the Municipal Franchise by the Small Tenements Rating Act of 1850 (13 and 14 Vict., cap. 99), and the Report dated 14th April, 1859, and the Minutes of Evidence have just been published p. Lords' Paper, 46/59. The Report points out that as originally framed, the Bill of 1850 had no reference whatever to Municipal Government. It was intended solely to enable parishes to assess to Poor Rate the *Owners* instead of the Occupiers of small tenements of not more than 6*l.* yearly rateable value, But in

the Commons a clause was inserted giving to all such small occupiers a right to have their names placed on the Municipal Register. The Committee point out that by means of this clause a great change has been effected in the system of Municipal Government as settled in 1835. Under the Act of that year actual payment of rates for two and a-half years was required as the preliminary condition of the municipal franchise. But under the Act of 1850 the franchise is given to persons from whom, except by means of the landlord, it is impossible to collect any rates whatever. As the result of the evidence collected, the Committee report that as a general result, and especially in the larger towns, the new class of municipal voters "are far less qualified by education, independence, and sobriety, to "exercise electoral privileges than the direct ratepayers;" and that "this class of "voters are generally open to the highest bidder—the bidding being generally in "the form of drink and breakfasts at the candidate's expense." The Committee also state, that in many cases the Act of 1850 has given the majority of the votes to persons who pay only a small part of the rates. In Sunderland, for example, 1,000 of the voters pay rates on 27,000*l.*, and 4,300 pay on 7,000*l.* only. The Committee report also, that under the change in the law the proceedings at Municipal Elections have become more corrupt and disorderly than hitherto—that the character of the persons elected has also begun to be unfavourably influenced—and the proceedings and expenditure of the Town Councils themselves to be more irregular and extravagant, and more at variance with the views of the more respectable part of the inhabitants. The Committee finally recommend that the law should be forthwith restored to the condition in which it was placed by the Municipal Reform Act of 1835, namely, that "as a security against corrupt and fraudulent practices, "actual, direct, and continuous payment of rates be the indispensable condition "of the municipal suffrage."—In recent numbers of the *Journal* the Small Tenements Act of 1850 has been a good deal referred to, and hence the present reference to the proceedings of a Committee by whom its operation has been specially investigated.

Modification of MARITIME LAW as regards Neutrals, adopted by the Treaty of Paris, 1856.

THE following declaration respecting maritime law, signed by the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Turkey, assembled in Congress at Paris, 16th April, 1856, is important at the present moment:—

"The Plenipotentiaries who signed the Treaty of 30th March, 1856, assembled in conference, considering, that Maritime Law in time of war has long been the subject of deplorable disputes; that the uncertainty of the law, and of the duties in such a matter, give rise to differences of opinion between neutrals and belligerents which may occasion serious difficulties, and even conflicts; that it is consequently advantageous to establish a uniform doctrine on so important a point; that the Plenipotentiaries assembled in Congress at Paris cannot better respond to the intentions by which their Governments are animated, than by seeking to introduce into international relations fixed principles in this respect; the above-mentioned Plenipotentiaries, being duly authorised, resolved to concert among themselves as to the means of attaining this object; and, having come to an agreement, have adopted the following solemn declaration:—

- “ 1. Privateering is, and remains, abolished.
- “ 2. The neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war.
- “ 3. Neutral goods, with the exception of contraband of war, are not liable to capture under enemy's flag.

"4. Blockades, in order to be binding, must be effective; that is to say, maintained by a force sufficient really to prevent access to the coast of the enemy.

"The Governments of the undersigned Plenipotentiaries engage to bring the present declaration to the knowledge of the States which have not taken part in the Congress of Paris, and to invite them to accede to it. Convinced that the maxims which they now proclaim cannot but be received with gratitude by the whole world, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries doubt not that the efforts of their Governments to obtain the general adoption thereof will be crowned with full success. The present declaration is not and shall not be binding, except between those Powers who have acceded, or shall accede to it. Done at Paris, the 16th April, 1856."

NEW TYPE-COMPOSING MACHINE.—*Hattersley's INVENTION.*

IT has been known in certain quarters that during the last two months the eminent firm of Bradbury and Evans have had in practical use at their large offices in Whitefriars, a Type-Composing Machine, invented and patented by Mr. Robert Hattersley, of Manchester, a gentleman who, we believe, is not himself a printer. In a letter in the *Literary Gazette* of 21st May, 1859, Mr. Henry Bradbury states the results of the two months' trial, and describes the nature of the machine. Into the description we cannot enter, saying merely that a model of the machine is in the Exhibition of the Society of Arts now open. But the results of the invention are stated by Mr. Bradbury in the following passage, and appear to be so important as to amount to a revolution in the art of printing. It would appear from the facts given, that in general terms the cheapening effected by the machine amounts to more than *fifty per cent.* as compared with present processes. This great discovery affords a further and most cogent reason for abolishing the Paper Duty, for with Free Paper Mills, and Printing reduced in cost by one-half, no limit can be assigned to the consumption of printed matter of all conceivable kinds. Mr. Bradbury says:—

"The following statement, comparing the old with the new system, is an example of what might be realised from the employment of machines. The calculation has been made simply with reference to the cost of the number of letters composed—and quite independent of all other extras to which all works more or less are subject, in the shape of making up, &c. The Extra or Advertisement sheet of the *Times* consists of eight pages of Ruby type. The composition amounts to 1,029,888 letters, or 205 galley sheets, at 4*s.* 3*d.* each, or 43*l.* 12*s.* Whereas, by the new system, the same number of galley sheets could be composed for 14*l.* 14*s.*; this multiplied daily, or 313 times, would yield a difference of 9,045*l.* 14*s.* in the year.—Again *Knight's English Cyclopædia* consists of 488 sheets, or 7,804 pages, of Brevier type. The composition amounts to 83,770,000 letters, or 83,770 at 6*d.*, or 2,094*l.* 5*s.* Whereas, by the new system, the same number of thousands could be composed for 980*l.* 13*s.*, yielding a difference of 1,163*l.* 12*s.* These results have been based upon the employment of six machines, eighteen intelligent youths, at 15*s.* per week, and one machine superintendent at 2*l.* 10*s.* The youths are qualified for either description of work,—distributing, classing, charging, or composition,—and are therefore able to relieve each other at the composing machine. It has been ascertained that, to sustain the speed of 4,000 letters per hour, a youth, or adult, would require change about every three hours. The introduction of the one system for the other would be at first attended with a certain amount of inconvenience: the two instances given, however, show that, sooner or later, the Type-Composing Machine will be adopted by necessity, and will have the same relatively proportional advantage over hand-composition as the printing-machine has had over the hand-press."
